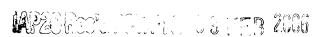
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Docket No.: 0397-0503PUS1

(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of: Yoshiharu WAKAO et al.

Application No.: NEW Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: February 9, 2006 Art Unit: N/A

For: METHOD FOR TREATING SHIP BALLAST Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

WATER

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

A summary/abstract translation of some of the non-English language references is enclosed. Furthermore, U.S. Patent 5,256,423 corresponds to JP-A-5-910; and all references not cited in the International Search Report are cited on pages 2-3 of the specification.

Applicant has not submitted copies of each cited U.S. patent and U.S. patent application as required by 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(i), amended October 2004, as the U.S. Patent and Trademark

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

MSW/clb

Application No.: NEW Docket No.: 0397-0503PUS1

就被一致是一次的"Danks"的。

Office has waived this requirement for all U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign and non-patents in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2).

A concise explanation of relevance of some of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is in the form of an English language copy of a Search Report from a foreign patent office, issued in a counterpart application, which refers to the relevant portions of the references.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Dated: February 9, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Marc S. Weiner

Registration No.: 32,181

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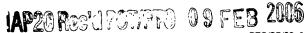
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PTO/SB/08a/b (07-05)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known-		
		•		Application Number	MANIER TROD	
IN	IFORMATION	I DI	SCLOSURE	Filing Date	February 9, 2006	
S	STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			First Named Inventor	Yoshiharu WAKAO	
				Art Unit	N/A	
	(Use as many sh	eets as	necessary)	Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned	
Sheet	1	of	1	Attomey Docket Number	0397-0503PUS1	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner	Cite No.1	Document Number	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where	
Initials*		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY	Applicant of Cited Document	Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
	AA*	US-5,256,423-A	10-26-1993	Egusa et al.		

		FORE	IGN PATENT	DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	τ°
****	ВА	JP-5-910-A	01-08-1993			ABS
	BB	JP-2004-42040-A	02-12-2004			ABS
	ВС	JP-1-94997-A	04-13-1989			ABS
	BD	JP-2002-86155-A	03-26-2002			ABS
	BE	JP-2695071-B2	09-12-1997			
	BF	JP-4-322788-A	11-12-1992			ABS
	BG	JP-2000-507153-A	06-13-2000			
	ВН	JP-2001-974-A	01-09-2001			ABS
	BI	JP-2003-334563-A	11-25-2003			ABS
	BJ	JP-8-91288-A	04-09-1996			ABS
	BK	JP-2002-234487-A	08-20-2002			ABS
	BL	JP-2004-160437-A	06-10-2004			ABS

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. * CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. 'Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). * See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.usplo.gov or MPEP 901.04. * The Tender of the IFW. 'Applicant's the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). * For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. * Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. * Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS				
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T²	

^{*}EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
Odriature		
Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP	MSW/c	CID

^{&#}x27;Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Prior Art (AFADS 1700 00 FEB 2006

Prior Arts	Copy attached	English translation (Abstract) attached	Remarks
Japanese Examined Patent Publication No. 2695071	Yes	No	This is referred to this application on page 2, lines 10-15 of the specification.
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. Hei 4(1992)-322788	Yes	Yes	This is referred to this application on page 2, lines 16-22 of the specification.
Japanese Kohyo No. 2000-507153	Yes	No	This is referred to this application on page 2, line 23 to page 3, line 3 of the specification. This is corresponding the following application: PCT International Publication No. WO 97/33833
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2001-974	Yes	Yes	This is referred to this application on page 3, lines 4-22 of the specification.
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2003-334563	Yes	Yes	This is referred to this application on page 3, lines 4-22 of the specification.
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. Hei 8(1996)-91288	Yes	Yes	This is referred to this application on page 3, lines 4-22 of the specification.

Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2002-234487	Yes	Yes	This is referred to this application on page 3, lines 4-22 of the specification.
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2004-160437	Yes	Yes	This is referred to this application on page 3, lines 4-22 of the specification.
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. Hei 5(1993)-910	Yes	Yes	This is remarked on International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210)
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2004-42040	Yes	Yes	This is remarked on International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210)
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. Hei 1(1989)-94997	Yes	Yes	This is remarked on International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210)
Japanese Unexamined Patent Publication No. 2002-86155	Yes	Yes	This is remarked on International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210)